



## **Government-to-University Initiative**

*Building lasting partnerships between government and universities*

### **What is the G2U Initiative?**

The G2U Initiative is an innovative approach to addressing critical governance challenges by building regional networks of governments and universities. G2U sustainably connects government's hiring and research needs with local university capacity. The initiative is premised on the notion that bringing government and university leaders together is a powerful approach to strengthening government's ability to deliver on its mission. The enthusiasm from partners in government, universities, and the civic sector in regions across the country illustrates the promise and power of G2U collaboration in reshaping the future of government.

At the core of the G2U Initiative is a growing group of vibrant, regional networks connecting local, state, and federal government leaders with key faculty and administrators from surrounding colleges and universities. Regional networks also engage nonprofit, civic, and private sector leaders interested in strengthening these relationships. To complement these efforts, the Volcker Alliance fosters a "network of networks" to facilitate the rapid exchange of ideas and best practices and provide engagement opportunities with national organizations allied with G2U aims.

### **What are the core values that unite G2U networks?**

- *Public service.* G2U networks affirm that public service is a high calling, and it is critical to engage our most thoughtful and accomplished citizens in service to the public good.
- *Connectivity.* G2U networks believe in the power of coming together, and the potential for strong, lasting relationships between government and university partners to shape the future of government and enhance the impact of universities.
- *Preparedness.* G2U networks believe the performance of government institutions depends critically on the training and education of talented public servants, and this responsibility is shared by our government, by our institutions of higher education, and by leading institutions in every sector of society.
- *State of the art governance.* G2U networks believe that governments will be most effective in developing public policy and implementing public programs if they avail themselves of current data and evidence, and the latest evaluation techniques. Universities are essential partners in that endeavor.
- *Inclusivity.* G2U networks are inclusive, engaging representatives from two-year, four-year, and graduate institutions, partnering with governments at all levels, and encouraging network membership to reflect the diversity of the communities it serves.
- *Peer-to-peer learning.* G2U networks are eager to share lessons across jurisdictions and benefit from the experience of their peers working to expand government-university collaborations around the nation.



### **What does success look like?**

- Durable, trusted partnerships between the government and university sectors;
- Top university graduates employed in government jobs;
- Relevant, incisive university research projects addressing government challenges;
- Smart policy changes reducing barriers to government recruitment and hiring;
- Robust engagement between innovative local leaders and aligned national initiatives; and
- Elevation of the talent pipeline into government as an urgent national priority.

### **How do I join the movement?**

If you are currently facilitating collaboration between governments and universities in your community, or if you are interested in playing a role in strengthening government-university relationships in your community, the Volcker Alliance wants to hear from you. Please reach out to [G2U@volckeralliance.org](mailto:G2U@volckeralliance.org). Our team will arrange an introductory conversation to jointly assess how you might participate in the G2U movement.